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REMARKS

AGENTS OF RECORD

For the captioned application, the undersigned attorney is an agent of record but has relocated his practice to the firm of:

McCarthy Tétrault LLP
Customer Service #: 27155
Toronto Dominion Bank Tower
P.O. Box 48, Suite 4700
Toronto, Ontario
M5K 1E6 Canada

Undersigned attorney advises that in total the following agents of record are also now associated with the same customer number:

Alfred Macchione	Reg. No. 40,333	
Robert Nakano	Reg. No. 46,498	(undersigned attorney)
Brian Gray	Reg. No. 30,017	
Kenneth Bousfield	Reg. No. 40,460	

Undersigned attorney also advises that the attorney reference number has been changed to

Atty's Docket No.: 123081-339701 (T01215-0051) US.

Applicant requests that the USPTO update its records for this application accordingly.

SUMMARY OF OFFICE ACTION

Examiner rejected claims 19, 21, 24, 25, 28, 32 and 34 under 35 U.S.C. 102 (b) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,799,201 to Lorenz et al ("Lorenz"). Examiner rejected claims 20, 22, 23, 29, 30 and 33 under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) in view of Lorenz and matters taken under Official Notice by the Examiner. Examiner objected to claims 26, 27 and 35, but indicated that they would be allowable if they were rewritten in independent form including all limitations of base and intervening claims.

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IN THE CLAIMS

In this Response, Applicant amends claims 19, 27, 28 and 34 and cancels claims 25 and 26 to traverse Examiner's rejections and objections. Applicant also adds new claims 36-43. There are 22 claims on file with the present amendment.

Claim 19 is amended to include all subject matter of claims 25 and 26. In view of Examiner's comments in regards to claim 26, as all limitations of claims 25 and 26 have been incorporated into claim 19, Applicant traverses rejection of claim 19.

Claims 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 27, 28, 29, 30, 32 and 33 ultimately depend from claim 19. In view of amendments made to claim 19, Applicant submits that all such claims are allowable and traverse their related rejections.

Claim 34 is amended to include all limitations of claim 35. As such, Applicant traverses rejection of Claim 34. Amended claim 35 and new claims 36-42 are based individually in part on subject matter provided in Claims 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 27, 28 and 29. New claim 43 defines a system for ciphering data which follows the indications of allowable subject matter provided by the Examiner. As such, Applicant submits that all claims, as provided, are allowable.

By way of the present amendment, this application is believed to be in condition for allowance and such action in due course is earnestly solicited. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone to discuss this case further, if necessary.

Respectfully submitted,

February 13, 2004
Date

Robert H. Nakano
(Registration No. 46,498)
McCarthy Tétrault LLP
Suite 4700
Toronto Dominion Bank Tower
Toronto-Dominion Centre
Toronto, Ontario M5K 1E6 Canada

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